

at least two metering pumps connected to the at least one reservoir of fluid; [and]

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at least two filling tubes connected to the at least two metering pumps, respectively; wherein each filling tube simultaneously fills one of the at least two compartments in the cartridge with the fluid; and

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~~a puck which defines a substantially cylindrical cavity and a pin eccentrically disposed in the substantially cylindrical cavity whereby the cartridge may be inserted in the cavity in the puck and aligned by insertion of the pin of the puck in the eccentric hole of the cartridge.~~

Claim 5, line 1, change "claim 4" to --claim 1--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "claim 4" to --claim 1--.

7. (amended) An apparatus for filling a substantially cylindrical-shaped cartridge having an eccentric hole therein and first and second compartments for storing fluid, comprising:

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first and second reservoirs containing first and second fluids, respectively;

first and second metering pumps connected to the first and second reservoirs, respectively;

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first and second filling tubes connected to the first and second metering pumps, respectively; wherein the first and second filling tubes simultaneously fill the first and second compartments in the cartridge with the first and second fluids, respectively; and

a puck which defines a substantially cylindrical cavity and a pin eccentrically disposed in the substantially cylindrical cavity whereby the cartridge may be inserted in the cavity in the puck and aligned by insertion of the pin of the puck in the eccentric hole of the cartridge.

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~~8~~ (amended) An apparatus for filling a substantially cylindrical-shaped cartridge having an eccentric hole therein and first, second and third compartments for storing fluid, comprising:

first, second and third reservoirs containing first, second and third fluids, respectively;

first, second and third metering pumps connected to the first, second and third reservoirs, respectively;

first, second and third filling tubes connected to the first, second and third metering pumps, respectively;

wherein the first, second and third filling tubes simultaneously fill the first, second and third compartments in the cartridge with the first, second and third fluids, respectively; and

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a puck which defines a substantially cylindrical cavity and a pin eccentrically disposed in the substantially cylindrical cavity whereby the cartridge may be inserted in the cavity in the puck and aligned by insertion of the pin of the puck in the eccentric hole of the cartridge.

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(amended) An apparatus for filling a substantially cylindrical-shaped cartridge an eccentric hole ^{cylindrical} therein and having first, second, third and fourth compartments for storing fluid, comprising:

first, second, third and fourth reservoirs containing first, second, third and fourth fluids, respectively;

first, second, third and fourth metering pumps connected to the first, second, third and fourth reservoirs, respectively;

first, second, third and fourth filling tubes connected to the first, second, third and fourth metering pumps, respectively;

wherein the first, second, third and fourth filling tubes simultaneously fill the first, second, third and fourth compartments in the cartridge with the first, second, third and fourth fluids, respectively; and

a puck which defines a substantially cylindrical cavity and a pin eccentrically disposed in the substantially cylindrical cavity whereby the cartridge may be inserted in the cavity in the puck and aligned by insertion of the pin of the puck in the eccentric hole of the cartridge.

Claim 11, line 1, change "claim 10" to --claim 9--.

Claim 12, line 1, change "claim 10" to --claim 9--.

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15. (amended) A method of filling a cartridge having at least two compartments for storing fluid, comprising:

placing the cartridge under at least two nozzles;

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inserting the at least two nozzles into the at least two compartments of the cartridge such that only one nozzle enters each compartment;

filling the at least two compartments with fluid; and

removing the at least two nozzles from the at least two compartments; and

before the placing step, the step of loading the cartridge in a puck and aligning the cartridge by inserting a pin of the puck in an eccentric hole of the cartridge.

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15. (amended) A method of filling a cartridge having first, second, third and fourth compartments for storing fluid, comprising:

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placing the cartridge under at least four nozzles;

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inserting the at least four nozzles into the first, second, third and fourth compartments of the cartridge such that only one nozzle enters each compartment;

filling the first, second, third and fourth compartments with first, second, third and fourth fluids, respectively; and

removing the nozzles from the first, second, third and fourth compartments; and

before the placing step, the step of loading the cartridge in a puck and aligning the cartridge by inserting a pin of the puck in an eccentric hole of the cartridge.

Please add the following claims.

~~24.~~ An apparatus according to claim 1, including a cartridge having at least two compartments for storing fluid.--

~~25.~~ An apparatus according to claim 7, including a cartridge having at least two compartments for storing fluid.--

~~10~~ ⁹ ~~26.~~ An apparatus according to claim ~~8~~, including a cartridge having at least two compartments for storing fluid.--

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--27. An apparatus according to claim 11, including a cartridge having at least two compartments for storing fluid.--

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--28. An apparatus for filling a container having at least two compartments for storing a fluid, comprising:

at least one reservoir for containing fluid;

at least one metering pump connected to said at least one reservoir;

at least two filling tubes connected to said at least one metering pump for at least partially filling said container; and

a holder aligned and fixed from rotation relative to said two filling tubes, said holder being configured for aligning said container relative to said two filling tubes.--

--29. An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said holder is configured to be translated relative to said two filling tubes.--

--30. An apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said holder is moved on a conveyor.--

--31. An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said holder is a puck.--

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--32. An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein said puck is provided with at least one surface for aligning said puck relative to said conveyor.--

--33. An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said puck is provided with a pair of parallel alignment surfaces for contacting with a pair of alignment rails provided on either side of said conveyor.--

--34. An apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said puck is configured for aligning the container relative to said puck.--

--35. An apparatus according to claim 34, wherein at least one surface on said puck engages with a surface on the container for aligning the container within said puck.--

--36. An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said puck is provided with an alignment pin for engaging with the container for aligning the container within said puck.--

Subj --37. An apparatus according to 36, wherein said alignment pin is eccentrically disposed relative to a center position of the container, and the container is provided with an eccentrically disposed hole for engaging with said alignment pin for aligning the container within said puck.--

22 *20* --38. An apparatus according to claim ~~28~~²⁰, including another separate metering pump connected to said at least one reservoirs and one of said at least two filling tubes to allow independent control and metering of fluid into the at least two compartments of the container.--

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-29. An apparatus according to claim *28*, including another separate reservoir for containing a fluid, said apparatus configured for providing fluid from both reservoirs to the container.--

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-30. An apparatus according to claim *29*, wherein said reservoirs are independently connected to said metering pumps and said filling tubes, respectively, for providing fluid from each reservoir to a different compartment of the container.--

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-31. An apparatus according to claim *28*, wherein said apparatus is configured for simultaneously filling said compartments.--

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-32. An apparatus according to claim *28*, wherein the container is a cartridge.--

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-33. An apparatus according to claim *28*, including at least one container having at least two compartments.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the subject application. After entry of the above amendments to the claims, claims 4, 10, 14, 16, and 20-23 have been canceled, claims 1, 5-9, 11-13 and 15 have been amended and claims 24-43 have been added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the above amendments and remarks as set forth herein below.

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